

## Thankful Cards

Why do we celebrate Thanksgiving? Give children the opportunity to learn about this national holiday and give thanks to the important people in their lives through art. Using a variety of materials, children will make unique, hand-made thank you cards that creatively express why they are thankful for that special family member, teacher or friend.

### Materials

- Envelopes
- Paper of different colors and textures (cut to fit into envelopes)
- Drawing materials (markers, pencils, colored pencils)
- Cutting tools (punches, regular scissors, decorative edge scissors)
- Collage materials (various papers, glue sticks)

### Goals

#### Social/Emotional

- Encourage children to think about Thanksgiving and what makes the important people in their lives unique.

#### Cognitive

- Express why they are thankful for a particular person through an artistic creation.

#### Physical/Motor-Skills

- Build fine motor-skills using a number of different tools and materials.

#### Language/Literacy

- Verbalize feelings about loved-ones.
- For readers—build writing and reading skills through creating a thank-you card and addressing an envelope.

### Instructions

1. Cover table/s in newspaper or other protective material and arrange supplies in the center.
2. Ask children what national holiday is coming up at the end of this month and why we celebrate Thanksgiving. Discuss a variety of answers.
3. Ask children to think of a person who is important to them. Encourage children to select materials and create a card that celebrates what they like about that person and why they are thankful for them. For example, if a child is making a card for her father who lets her help in the kitchen, she may create a card with a kitchen theme.
4. When children are finished with their card, show them an example of a signed envelope and have children address the envelope, offering assistance as needed. Then place cards in the envelopes to seal and deliver!

